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PTO/SB/50 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
(RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/894,356
Filing Date	June 28, 2001
First Named Inventor	Mark A. Ritchart et al.
Group Art Unit	3736
Examiner Name	J. Foreman
Attorney Docket Number	END-770

**CUSTOMER NO. 000027777**

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (a) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50082 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14969 (Mar. 20, 2000); 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.118 previously filed on  
(any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other

**2. Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other

**3. Fees** - The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments,  
to Deposit Account No. 10-0750 /END-770/GSG.
- i. ☒ RCE fee is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of Time (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (print/type)	Gerry S. Gressel	Registration No.	34,342
Signature	<i>Gerry S. Gressel</i>	Date	April 30, 2004
<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION</b>			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: April 30, 2004			
Name (print/type)	Gerry Gressel		
Signature	<i>Gerry Gressel</i>	Date	April 30, 2004

5 pages

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01 JUN 10 2004 RCVD AT 4/30/2004 11:21 PM (Eastern Daylight Time) \* SVC:USPTO-EPXRT-1/1 \* DNB:8729306 \* CSD:513 337 8489 \* DURATION (mm-ss):01-48

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